MR. K NARAYANAN PANDALAY (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The answer is in the negative.

(*b*) This question does not arise in view of the answer to part (*a*).

Recruitment of Labour.

25. **MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI** (*Tovala*): (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether recruiting labour for places outside the State is permitted?

(*b*) If so, are any means adopted to look after the condition of labourers of the State and safeguard their interests abroad?

(*c*) Are the Government aware that conditions of labour recruited for work in estates in the State are such as require investigation? If so, do they propose to appoint a committee to go into the matter?

MR. K. NARAYANAN PANDALAY (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*)

(*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

(*b*) There are no special safeguards.

(*c*) The answer to the first part of the question is in the negative. The second part does not therefore arise.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): The answer to part (*b*) says, "There are no special safeguards." May I know from the Government whether there is any safeguard at all?

MR. K. NARAYANAN PANDALAY (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): The safeguards that are available to people under the ordinary law are available to these recruits as well.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): In regard to the answer to part (*c*), are the Government aware that the conditions of labour in the estates are such as do not require any investigation?

MR. K. NARAYANAN PANDALAY (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): They have no knowledge either way.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Are the Government aware whether there is any special provision made to look after the general health of the labourers in the estates?

MR. K NARAYANAN PANDALAY (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): No; the Government are not aware.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Do the Government think that it is desirable to have dispensaries in the several places just to protect the poor labourers in the estates?

MR. K. NARAYANAN PANDALAY (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): That question does not arise from the principal interpellation of which the member has given notice.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Are the Government satisfied that the general conditions of the labourers in the estates are really safe?

MR. K. NARAYANAN PANDALAY (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): Government have made no enquiries in the matter and they are not in possession of any definite information.

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